

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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25X SUBJECT Coking Plant in Lauchhammer-West

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SOURCE

1. The central coking plant for the production of brown coal foundry coke (Braunkohlen-Husttenkoks) in Lauchhammer-West (N 52/A 13) was built by the former Deutsche Ofenbau Gesellschaft (German Furnace Construction Company) in Leipzig (N 52/E 21), headed by manager Neof (Inu). Brown coal foundry coke is already being produced on a small scale in the coking plant of a gasworks in the Soviet Sector of Berlin. All non-saliferous brown coal is suitable for coking. *
2. The attempt to use brown coal foundry coke in the Ironworks Combine East in Fuerstenberg (N 54/U 52) damaged the blast furnace and caused the shutdown of this furnace during the first 10 days of December 1951. **

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Comment. The reported furnace construction firm is probably the former Industrie Ofenbau G.m.b.H. (Industrial Furnace Construction Company) at h Rudolphstrasse in Leipzig G L.

25X1

Comment. The process for producing foundry coke from brown coal was developed by experts of the Soviet Zone brown coal and ironworks industry in cooperation with the scientists of the Mining Academy in Freiberg, Saxony, (N 51/K 97). The brown coal coking plant in Lauchhammer is scheduled to produce 300,000 tons of coke by late 1952. This coking plant will be improved and will allegedly have an annual capacity of 1,500,000 tons of coke by 1955. The coke will be used chiefly in the low shaft type furnaces (Niederschachtoefen) of the Ironworks West in Calbe/Saale (N 52/D 77). The Ironworks Combine East in Fuerstenberg/Oder will be supplied with hard coal coke from Upper Silesia.

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